

2021 World Lupus Month

**Presented by Councilmember Chris Cate
May 2021**

WHEREAS, World Lupus Day began with a Proclamation thirteen years ago in the United Kingdom by an international steering committee representing Lupus organizations from 13 nations and focuses on the need for heightened public awareness, improved patient healthcare services, and increased research into the causes and a cure for Lupus; **AND**

WHEREAS, Lupus is a chronic, auto-immune disease that causes inflammation of various parts of the body, especially the skin, joints, blood and kidneys caused by the immune system's loss of the ability to tell the difference between foreign substances and its own cells and tissue; **AND**

WHEREAS, research data shows that between 1.5 to 2 million people world-wide have been diagnosed with Lupus and that Lupus affects 1 out of every 185 Americans and affecting adult women 10-15 times more frequently than adult men; **AND**

WHEREAS, despite being controlled with proper treatment, thousands of people unknowingly suffer from Lupus, killing thousands of Americans each year; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Lupus Foundation of Southern California is a 501(c)(3) non-profit health agency serving San Diego and Imperial Counties that works tirelessly to provide peer-patient counseling, promote community awareness to increase the public's knowledge of this terrible disease, organize support groups, and fundraise for Lupus programs and research; **AND**

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego would like to bring awareness to the millions of people who suffer from Lupus and recognize the Lupus Foundation of Southern California for their unyielding dedication in combating this disease; **NOW, THEREFORE**

BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby proclaim May 2021 as "**2021 World Lupus Month**" in the City of San Diego.